

Attorney Docket No.: 5997.210-US



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Ashie et al.

Confirmation No: 3289

Serial No.: 10/041,080

Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Filed: January 7, 2002

Examiner: To be assigned

For: Meat Tenderization

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Before examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On a new page, following page 16, please add the following Abstract of the disclosure:

--The present invention relates to methods for tenderizing meat. The methods comprise contacting meat with a tenderizing effective amount of a thermolabile protease having limited substrate specificity.--

Please amend the specification to include the attached Figures 1, 2 and 3.

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted to address the Notice Incomplete Non-provisional Application, mailed on February 11, 2002.

In particular, the specification has been amended to include Figures 1, 2 and 3. Figures 1, 2 and 3 are taken from the parent application, USSN 09/620,494, the contents of which were fully incorporated by reference into the specification of the above-captioned application on page 1, lines 5-8. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

The specification has also been amended to include an Abstract. Support for this amendment is found throughout the specification and claims as originally filed.

There is no new matter added, and entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if there are any questions concerning this amendment or application.

10041080-0307-001

A

3/18/02
A